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## Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

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## Listing of claims:

## 1-8. (Cancelled)

- 9. (Currently Amended) A method for increasing or maintaining the blood supply in the penis of a subject which method comprises introducing a nucleic acid comprising a gene encoding a vascular endothelial growth factor into a suitable cell in the subject's penis under conditions permitting the expression of the vascular endothelial growth factor encoded by the introduced nucleic acid in the cell so as to thereby increase or maintain the blood supply in the subject's penis.
- 10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the nucleic acid is contained within **comprises** a vector.
- 11. (Cancelled)